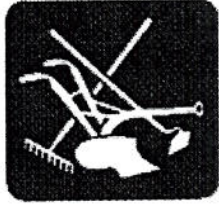


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November 23, 2009

Dr. Eileen E. Ely

Scottsbluff Campus

11/25/2009

1601 E. 27th Street

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

RE: Western Nebraska Community College Wind Energy Training Center

Dear Dr. Ely,

Nebraska Farmers Union supports and encourages Western Nebraska Community College's efforts to establish a Wind Energy Training Center and program curriculum. As an organization with over 5,000 farm and ranch family members statewide, we worked with Sen. Wayne Ziebarth to create the Nebraska community college system. We want to educate and train rural children to help them stay in rural communities. We believe the development of a Wind Energy Training Center and program curriculum would be a good fit with your programs and mission.

One of the economic bright spots in our state and national economy is the development of renewable energy, including wind energy development. Wind energy development provides an enormous economic opportunity for our state for both new jobs and rural economic development. I am enclosing a copy of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory report: *Wind Energy and Economic Development in Nebraska*. That report identifies the different kinds of jobs and rural economic development benefits that come with different kinds of economic development models at 1,000 MWs and 7,880 MWs of wind energy development in Nebraska. The data speaks for itself. In addition, Nebraska is now ranked 3rd in the nation in wind resource potential.

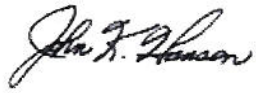
Nebraska Farmers Union believes that Western Nebraska Community College is well suited to set up the necessary program to help make sure these new jobs are filled by Nebraska trained and educated students. As Co-Chair of the Nebraska Wind Working Group, we have worked with Northeast Community College in the development of their wind technician program. Nebraska Farmers Union administers the Wind Powering America educational outreach and advocacy program which is a partnership funded by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and U.S. Department of Energy Wind Powering America. If we can be of any assistance in your efforts to secure funding or as you go forward with program development, we would be glad to do so.

This past year, Nebraska Farmers Union has conducted over 90 wind information events across our state. We know that rural Nebraskans are becoming aware of the enormous rural economic development and job creation potential of wind energy development.

Thanks for your interest in wind energy development in Nebraska.

11/25/2009

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John K. Hansen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

John K. Hansen

Nebraska Farmers Union President